

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 FEA-01 INT-05 CU-02 ERDA-05

AID-05 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /039 W

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R 271841Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7944

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 4598

FOR ARA/CEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, GT

SUBJECT: GUATEMALA REQUEST FOR PETROLEUM TRAINING

REF: (A) STATE 199295, (B) STATE 201593

1. DEEPLY APPRECIATE EXTENSIVE AND TIME-CONSUMING RESEARCH THAT WENT INTO REF A, WHICH IS MOST HELPFUL TO EMBASSY.

2. EBOFFS HAVE APPOINTMENT WITH MINLABOR CORZO THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 28. WE WILL TAKE OPPORTUNITY AT THAT TIME TO GIVE HIM FOLLOWING INFORMATION BASED REF A:

A. BECAUSE OIL PRODUCTION CURRENTLY PRODUCES HIGH REVENUES FOR PRODUCING COUNTRY, USG POLICY IS THAT TRAINING IN TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTION IN US SHOULD BE PAID FOR ENTIRELY BY RECIPIENT COUNTRY.

B. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MINISTRY OF LABOR HAD OVER \$100,000 SET ASIDE FOR PETROLEUM TRAINING. IF THIS IS STILL THE CASE, AND GOG WOULD WISH TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF TRAINING IN US AT GOG EXPENSE, WE WILL LIST ALTERNATIVES SET FORTH IN PARA 7 REF A AND OFFER EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN COMMUNICATING

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GOG'S SPECIFIC NEEDS AND IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS.

C. WE ARE EXPECTING A NUMBER OF BROCHURES AND LISTS FROM WASHINGTON, WHICH WILL PROVIDE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON SEVERAL OF THE ALTERNATIVES, AND WILL GO OVER THESE WITH THE MINISTER'S STAFF AS SOON AS THEY ARE RECEIVED.

3. IN SEPARATE CALLS, WE WILL DISCUSS TRAINING, AND VISITS BY SPECIALISTS AS WELL, WITH DIRECTOR-GENERAL, MINERALS AND HYDROCARBONS, IN MINISTRY OF ECONOMY WHEN POUCHED MATERIAL RECEIVED.

4. APPRECIATE OFFER REF B BY FEA TO SEND ASSOCIATE ASST. ADM. JAMES A. WEST TO GUATEMALA WEEK OF SEPTEMBER

15. AT APPROPRIATE TIME, HIS VISIT COULD BE MOST USEFUL. HOWEVER, NEW PETROLEUM LAW HAS JUST BEEN SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS (SEPTEL). VISIT NOW BY USG OFFICIAL IN OIL FIELD CULD BE MISINTERPRETED, PARTICULARLY IF ELEMENTS IN CONGRESS CHOOSE TO OPPOSE NEW LEGISLATION, WHICH RELATIVELY FAVORABLE TO FOREIGN-COMPANY INTERESTS. REGRET NOT ABLE NOW TO PROGRAM WEST FOR MID-SEPT. WOULD LIKE HOWEVER TO RAISE POSSIBILITY OF HIS VISIT LATER ON.
MELOY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GUATEM04598
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750297-0558
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750814/aaaaamcj.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 199295, 75 STATE 201593
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <19 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUATEMALA REQUEST FOR PETROLEUM TRAINING
TAGS: OEXC, GT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006